

“Hear the Latest News from our Companion Synod”

The distance between Eastern Washington/Idaho and a small community in southern Tanzania, Africa, is great when calculated in miles (or kilometers). However, that distance decreases with every e-mail, phone call, letter and visit exchanged between our Companions in Tanzania and persons from our Synod.

Five short days before our Assembly begins in Spokane, three people from our Synod will be returning home from a visit to our Companions, the Ulanga Kilombero Diocese of Tanzania. Pr. Mark Nelson, Assist. Bishop, Heidi Cryer, Kennewick, Wa, and Marj Nishek, Bonners Ferry, ID, will bring home the very latest news from the Ulanga Kilombero Diocese and from Tumaini School and Lugala Hospital in particular.

Our Companions are consecrating a new Bishop, a young man that the last Companion Synod Travel Group met and learned to admire during their visit to Tumaini L.S. in Oct. of 2006. Rev. Renard Mtenji will become the new Bishop of the Ulanga Kilombero Diocese on April 6th, 2008. Pr. Mark, Heidi and Marj will be there to extend their congratulations and blessing on behalf of all in our Synod.

This trio of travelers has promised to be the eyes and ears for everyone in our Synod. They pledge to absorb as much as possible regarding the happenings, news, concerns and goals of our Companion Synod. Using video, photos, word and song, the trio will transmit as much as possible to those who wish to attend the “Hear the Latest News from our Companion Synod” workshop. Of particular interest will be a sharing of the plans Tumaini School has for a new Dining/Assembly Hall and the possibility that might exist for congregations of our synod to help provide training for a much needed Tanzanian doctor for Lugala Hospital. There will be much, much more...perhaps even a cup of chai. Karibuni!!! (welcome to all)